

## Proclamation Presented

## In Recognition of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament was founded in 1959 by six men including Porter Dickenson, Peter S. Fithian, Dudley C. Lewis, Richard F. MacMillan, Desmond Stanley, Edward D. Sultan, Sr. and C.M. Cooke III; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament is sponsored by the Hawaiian International Billfish Association (HIBA), a non-profit corporation, whose mission is to operate the tournament annually and promote the city of Kailua-Kona as a year round quality Big Fish (Marlin and Tuna) destination; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament attracts the most competitive fishing teams from across the globe including Japan, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tahiti, South Africa, Portugal, Papua New Guinea and the United States: and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament works in partnership with the Pacific Ocean Research Foundation (PORF) to raise awareness about the life cycle of the Marlin; over a period of 15 years, more than 65 scientific papers were written by scientists with credit to PORF; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament provides significant contributions to the quality of life for individuals on the Big Island as well as to the Kona sports fishing tradition; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament will take place throughout the week of July 25-29, 2011 in Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i;

THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the week of July 25-29, 2011 as

## "HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT WEEK"

in Hawai'i and urge the people of the Aloha State to support the 52nd Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of June, 2011.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i